

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM LANSING

JANET OLSZEWSKI DIRECTOR

GOVERNOR

August 14, 2006

Dear Hospital Administrator:

As you know, the Department of Community Health administers the Newborn Screening Program under the authority of Public Act 14, of 1987, which provides for the testing of infants for genetic disorders that, if not properly detected, would result in serious disability or death. The statute also requires that the fee charged to support this program be adjusted annually "to reflect the cumulative annual percentage change in the Detroit Consumer Price Index."

The last fee adjustment per the inflationary language in the statute was effective October 1, 2005. In an effort to support the authorized cost of the program at a continuation level for the 2007 fiscal year, a rate increase is necessary for the Newborn Screening Program. Based on the 3.8 percent increase in the Detroit Consumer Price Index, the department will increase the cost of the newborn screening cards.

Therefore, beginning October 1, 2006, the department will charge \$58.99 for each screening card purchased. For the minimum order of 25 cards, the charge will be \$1,474.75. As in the past, we will strive to process your card orders within five working days.

Although it receives little publicity, the Newborn Screening Program is a needed preventive health effort. By continuing the testing effort with referral, diagnostic, and medical management services, we believe we have developed an integrated and highly effective program to prevent or reduce the consequences of a number of major genetic disorders. You have played an integral role in its development and conduct, and we are very proud of the success of this partnership.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Dr. William Young, the Director of Michigan's Newborn Screening Follow-Up and Medical Management Program, at (517) 335-8938.

Sincerely,

Janet Olszewski

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Director

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